

REMARKS

It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, are patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to these claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

Claims 2-17, 21-26, 28, and 29 and amended claims 1, 19, 20, and 27 are in this application.

Claim 17 is allowed.

Claims 1-3 and 27 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-3 of U.S. Patent No. 6,240,552.

Claims 1 and 27 have been amended herein. Accordingly, withdrawal of the double patenting rejection to claims 1 and 27, and dependent claims 2 and 3, which are dependent from claim 1, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kochanski (5,512,934) in view of Gelman et al. (5,341,474). Claims 1-16 and 21-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Voeten in view of Gelman (5,341,474). Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Voeten in view of Gelman (5,341,474) and Florin et al. (5,621,456). Claims 27-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Voeten in view of Gelman (5,341,474) and Coverston et al. (5,504,883).

Independent claims 1, 19, 20, and 27, have each been amended herein, to recite in part as follows:

“...wherein said information data are divided into a predetermined number of data groups, and the information data are divided into T (T=2,3,4...) sentences, wherein T depends on the number of channels, wherein the predetermined number of data groups is recorded in the storage medium unit in such changed order that Nth (N=1,2,3,4...) data group of the last sentence of the information data appears after the Nth data group of the first sentence and wherein said routing means deliver a continuous stream of information data to the end device by switching said data groups from the storage medium unit between virtual channels.”

Thus, independent claims 1, 19, 20, and 27 have been amended to include features somewhat similar to those from allowed claim 17. Accordingly, independent claims 1, 19, 20, and 27 are believed to be distinguishable over the prior art as applied by the Examiner.

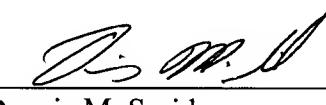
Claims 2-16, 21-26, 28, 29 are dependent from one of claims 1 and 27, and, due to such dependency, are believed to be distinguishable over the prior art as applied by the Examiner for at least the reasons previously described.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner’s statement that claim 17 is allowed.

It is to be appreciated that the foregoing comments concerning the disclosures in the cited prior art represent the present opinions of the Applicants’ undersigned attorney and, in the event, that the Examiner disagrees with any such opinions, it is requested that the Examiner indicate where, in the reference or references, there is the basis for a contrary view.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable over the prior art, and early and favorable consideration thereof is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,  
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